GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:488
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2003
ATROCITIES ON DALITS
M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `DalitWomen, daughter paraded naked` appearing in The Hindustan Times dated January 14, 2003;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken against the accused; and

(d) the measures taken/to be taken to prevent such incidents in future?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN)

(a), (b)&(c) The news item captioned `Dalit Women, daughter paraded naked`, does not appear tohave been published in the Delhi Edition of `The Hindustan Times`, dated January14,2003. However, the said news item appeared in newspaper,` The Hindu`, dated January 14,2003. The matter has been taken up with Government of Madhya Pradesh. The requisiteinformation is awaited from the State Government and will be laid on the table of the House when received.

(d) The State Governments/Union Administrations are addressed from time to time to implementthe provisions of the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, in letter and spirit and take appropriate preventive action for checking offences. For effective implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes andthe Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, central assistance is provided to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for strengthening of the administrative, enforcement and judicial machinery, awareness generation, and relief and rehabilitation of the affected persons.

Special Cells have also been set up in the States/UTs of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh,Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttranchal and Pondicherry towards implementation of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.